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TURTLE DOVE *STREPTOPELIA TURTUR* IN KENYA The Turtle Dove is a regular visitor to northern Africa which also migrates across the Sahara to winter quarters in the Sudan and Ethiopia (Mackworth-Praed & Grant 1957). On 3 January 1981 we observed a Turtle Dove at Samburu Lodge, Kenya (0°40'N, 37°30'E). It was rather tame and walked among the guests looking for scattered food. Knowing the Turtle Dove from Europe and the Dusky Turtle Dove *S. lugens* from Kenya, we were able to identify it as *S. turtur*. At the time we were unaware of its rarity in Kenya and only made some rough field notes although we photographed the bird in colour. An examination of the prints (which are lodged with the Ornithological Sub Committee) reconfirmed the identification.

Because of the paleness of the plumage and the pronounced spots on the wings, we feel that it probably belongs to the Egyptian race *isabellina*.

Samburu Lodge is about 110 km southeast of the site of the first Kenya record at Barsaloi (Horne & Short 1977). The second observation of a Turtle Dove in northern Kenya indicates that it may not be such a rare visitor as one might have expected. It may be that wintering Turtle Doves are often taken to be Dusky Turtle Doves or that most observers, especially those from Europe, are not aware of its rarity.

REFERENCE

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